

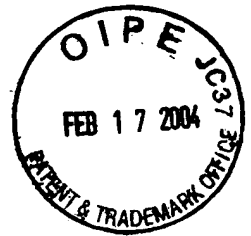
## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY (JOINT)

As the below named inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our residences, post office addresses, and citizenship, are as stated on the following pages of this document next to our names; and

We believe we are the original, first, and joint Inventors of the subject matter which is claimed, and for which a patent is sought under and in accordance with applicable statutes of the United States of America (Title 35, United States Code) on the invention entitled:

### STITCHLESS ON-SITE BINDING METHOD AND DEVICE



the specification of which:

☐ is attached hereto.

☒ was filed September 22, 2003, Application Serial No. 10/665,467 and was amended \_\_\_\_\_ [if applicable].

We further declare that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this Application, as required by statutes of the United States of America and implementing rules (37 CFR §1/56(a)).

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. §119 and/or §365 of any foreign application or applications for patent or Inventor's certificate listed below. Also, unless otherwise set forth below, there is no foreign application for patent or Inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

#### PRIOR FOREIGN & INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION(S)

#### PRIORITY CLAIMED

Number

Country

Date Filed

Yes

No

We hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of any United States application or applications listed below. Insofar as the subject matter of each claim of this application or applications in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, we acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as required by statute and implementing rules (37 CFR §1.56(a)) which occurred between the effective filing date of the prior application and the effective national or PCT international filing date of this application.

<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Date Filed</u>	<u>Status</u>
PCT/US03/20418	06/30/03	pending

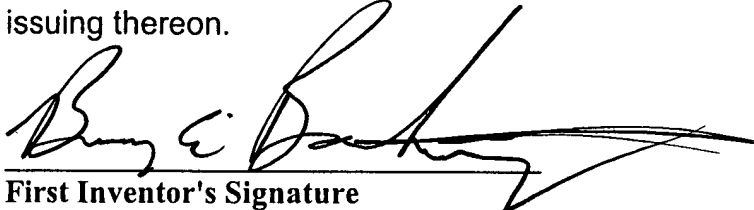
We hereby appoint as our attorneys, with full powers of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this Application and transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

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We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. §1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the Application or any patent issuing thereon.

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*(Signature should conform to name as printed or typewritten)*

**[ ] Additional Inventors on attached page**